

**Reminder: *Steel shot is required on all GPA's and WPA's
ERD closes this weekend: ANY DEER tags DO NOT
convert for the late season!!!**

Aurora County

Lynn Geuke



Fishing report:

Wilmarth Mitchell: **NO VEHICLES OFF ROAD.**

Reminder: The minimum length limit on Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass in the lake is 15"
THE ENTIRE LAKE OF WILMARTH IS A NO WAKE ZONE!

Nelson Lake: No report. **NO VEHICLES DRIVING OFF ROADS.**



Hunting report: Deer hunting this season has been fairly good. Deer have been plentiful in the area. There have been some nice deer taken in the County. The rut is nearly over with only a few bucks still with does. Most of the deer have started to group up. **Hunters are reminded shooting from the vehicle/road/ ditch is illegal!! Get out of your vehicle and find a place to sit and watch.**

Pheasant hunters have had moderate success in the area. Limits of birds are possible but are seldom seen with more than 3-4 hunters. Pheasants have grouped up into heavier covered areas, but will drift more now that the snow is nearly gone.

Waterfowl in the area are nonexistent.

Beadle County

Chris Kuntz



Fishing Report: No activity. Varying ice reports between 6-8 inches, use caution if you are out on the ice.

James River: No activity.

Lake Byron: No activity.

Mud Lake: No activity.

Cavour Lake: No activity.

Ravine: No activity.



Hunting Report: Pheasant hunters have been having decent success with better luck hunting cattail sloughs or heavier cover. Deer hunters remember that it is prohibited to chase game, shoot from your vehicle or from a road right-of-way.

Remember to make sure you are at least 660ft away from any occupied dwelling, livestock, church or school when road hunting.

Bon Homme County

Todd Crownover



Fishing Report

Missouri River: No activity.

Lake Henry: No activity.

Remember bass size is 15 inches.

Clear Lake: No report.

Merkel Lake (Singleton GPA): No report.

Heritage GPA: No activity.



Hunting Report: Pheasant hunters are finding more birds than expected. Archery hunters are surprisingly harvesting some good bucks.

Brookings County

Jeff Grendler



Fishing Reports:

Lake Sinai: Fishing has been slow.

West Lake Oakwood: Slow.

East Oakwood: Slow.

Oak Lake: No activity.

Brush Lake: A few perch biting through the ice. 10-12 inches.

Lake Poinsett: A few walleyes and the occasional perch. Fishing has been slow.

East 81 ponds: A few walleyes have been caught 14-16 inches. A few perch have been caught 10-12 inches.

Lake Hendricks: Slow, little to no activity.

Lake Goldsmith: Slow little to no activity.

Lake Campbell: No Activity.

Dakota Nature Park: Slow.

Interstate Lake: Slow.



Hunting Report: Deer hunters have been having some success. Those sitting in stands, walking wetlands, or shelterbelts have been getting some nice deer.

Hunters choosing to ride around in vehicles are not doing very well. Hunters are encouraged to get out of their vehicles and walk. Hunters that choose to drive through and around cover are in violation. If a deer is spooked or jumped because of this it is considered illegal use of a motor vehicle to hunt and hunters will be charged accordingly.

The majority of the migration has come and gone. There are a few ducks still moving through. Hunters really need to scout to find these.

Pheasant hunters have been having better success the last few weeks. Public land hunting has been very good. With cooler weather hunters should concentrate on heavier cover.

Clay County

Tony Stokely



Fishing Report:

Missouri River: No activity.

Vermillion River: No activity.



Hunting Report: Deer pressure and harvest is low. Waterfowl hunters are minimal, river icing up a little and few hunters turning to fields. Trapping activity is moderate, with reports of fur prices minimum.

Davison County

Andy Petersen



Fishing Report: Ice is new and thin in a lot of areas. Use extreme caution.

Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.

Lake Mitchell: No report.

James River: No report.



Hunting Report: Hunters are having better success as the season progresses. With all the crops out, hunters are finding more birds. The recent cold weather should get the birds in the thick cover areas. The season opens at 12:00 noon CST on October 18th – 24th and 10:00 am CST the rest of the season. The season closes at sunset each day.

Hanson County

Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert



Fishing Report: Ice is new and thin in a lot of areas. Use extreme caution.

Lake Hanson: No Report

Ethan Dam: No Report

James River: No Report



Hunting Report: Hunters are having better success as the season progresses. With all the crops out, hunters are finding more birds. The recent cold weather should get the birds in the thick cover areas. The season opens at 12:00 noon CST on October 18th – 24th and 10:00 am CST the rest of the season. The season closes at sunset each day.

Hutchinson County

Brian Humphrey



Fishing: No fishing activity observed. Poor ice conditions.



Hunting: Pheasant hunting continues to be good in areas with good habitat. Deer hunting success has been slow.

Jerauld County

Lynn Geuke



Fishing Report: No report.



Hunting Report: Deer hunters have had good success in Jerauld this year. There have been some nice deer harvested in the area. Most of the rut is now over and deer have started to group up.

Pheasant hunters have done well for the most part. Hunters should expect to see a couple birds per person after hunting a long day. Limits with over 3-4 hunters are seldom but not impossible to get.

Kingsbury County

Shane Van Bockern



Fishing Reports: No activity

Lake Thompson: Slow-fair for walleye, crappie.

West 81: Slow-fair success on perch and walleye.

Lake Whitewood: Fair for perch.

Lake Henry: Slow- for walleye and pike.

Lake Albert: Slow for walleye and pike.

Spirit Lake: Slow.

Lake Preston: No activity.



Hunting Report: Pheasant hunters having moderate success hunting heavy cattail slough areas.

Deer hunters have had fair success. Cold weather and light snow cover have deer concentrated into heavy cover as well. Scattered small flocks of mallards and Canada geese have been spotted in the eastern half of the county as well. Very light hunting pressure on the waterfowl.

Lake County

Cody Symens



Fishing Report: Ice conditions vary from 4-9”.

Lake Madison: Anglers are catching a few small walleye and small perch, no keepers at this time.

Lake Herman: Minimal angling pressure with little success.

Brant Lake: Minimal angling pressure.

Long Lake: No report.

Lake Henry: Anglers are catching a few walleye but pressure is relatively low.

Lake George: Small walleye in the 6” range, minimal pressure.



Hunting Report: Deer hunters are doing well in the area. Several nice bucks have been harvested this year. If you possess a valid tag, be sure to obtain permission for private land.

Lincoln County

Nate Stukel



Fishing Report:

Big Sioux: No fishing activity, open water still exists in many areas and ice conditions are not safe.

Hudson: No activity observed at this point. Use caution if venturing onto the ponds to ice fish. A small patch of open water was observed last week on the west pond.

Lake Alvin: No fishing activity. Ice conditions on Lake Alvin are very unpredictable with the various springs in the lake. Extreme caution is advised if venturing onto the ice.

Lake Lakota: Very little ice fishing activity at this point. Use caution as ice conditions change rapidly on this lake as the water level continues to drop throughout winter.



Hunting Report:

Deer: Rifle hunters are reporting fair success.

Pheasant: Birds have bunched up and moved to heavy cover.

Waterfowl: A few birds can be found using open pockets of water on the Big Sioux River.

McCook County

Matt Talbert



Fishing Report:

Lake Vermillion: Minimal activity.

Island Lake: Minimal activity.

Lehrman Slough: No fishing activity seen.



Hunting Report: Pheasant hunters are still finding a few birds here and there. Deer hunters have had some success.

Miner County

Evan Meyer



Fishing Report: No activity.



Hunting Report: Pheasant hunters are still finding birds. Archery hunters are in good mood as mature bucks are being spotted in day light hours. Reminder of road hunting regulations when it pertains to cattle!!!!

Minnehaha County

Jared Hill



Fishing Report: Ice conditions vary across the county.

Beaver Lake: Minimal activity.

Scott Slough: Minimal activity.

Island Lake: Minimal activity.

Loss Lake: Minimal activity.

Lost Lake: Minimal activity.

Twin Lakes: A few anglers have tried their luck but nothing big to report. **(REMEMBER: 28 inch minimum on Walleyes.)**

Family Park: Be wary of ice conditions.

Wall Lake: Be wary of ice conditions.

Clear Lake: No reports.



Hunting Report: There are a few pockets of geese and ducks around Sioux Falls but mostly on private property. **Reminder – Be aware of where you are and what around you when hunting.**

Moody County

Chad Williams



Fishing Report:

Big Sioux River: No activity.



Hunting Report: Hunters are averaging about a bird per person in the areas with higher numbers of pheasants. Hunters that have been successful were hunting the evening (last couple hours) near good stands of grass. Deer have really been on the move lately. Most waterfowl have moved on.

Sanborn County

Evan Meyer



Fishing Report: Fishing activity has been minimal in the county.



Hunting Report: Pheasant hunters are still finding birds. Waterfowl migration has been in full swing with the big changes in the weather. Archery hunters are in good mood as mature bucks are being spotted in day light hours. Reminder of road hunting regulations when it pertains to cattle!!!!

Turner County

Brian Humphrey



Fishing Report: No fishing activity observed. Poor ice conditions.



Hunting: Heard reports of a few nice deer in the Centerville area that have been harvested. Pheasant hunting has been slow in Turner county.

Union County

Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel



Fishing Report:

Missouri River: No activity.

Big Sioux River: No activity.

McCook Lake: No activity.

Reminder: There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



Hunting Report: Deer pressure and harvest is low. Waterfowl hunters are minimal, river icing up a little and few hunters turning to fields. Trapping activity is moderate, with reports of fur prices minimum.

Yankton County

Dan Altman



Fishing Report:

Marindahl: No activity.

Lewis and Clark: No activity.

James River: No activity.

Lake Yankton: **DEAD!!!**

Missouri River: No activity



Hunting Report: Waterfowl hunters have had good success hunting the river. Archery hunters have had some success the past two weeks as deer have been on the move. A few pheasants are being harvested as well but some snow cover should help.